



Writing in Reception

During reception, your child will be taught to:

- Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.
- Hold a pencil effectively for fluent writing (using the tripod grip in almost all cases).
- Write simple phrases and sentences which can be read by themselves and others.
- Use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds (phonetically plausible) – i.e. they spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters.
- They also write some irregular common words.

Suggestions for how you could support your child's learning at home are highlighted on the next few pages:

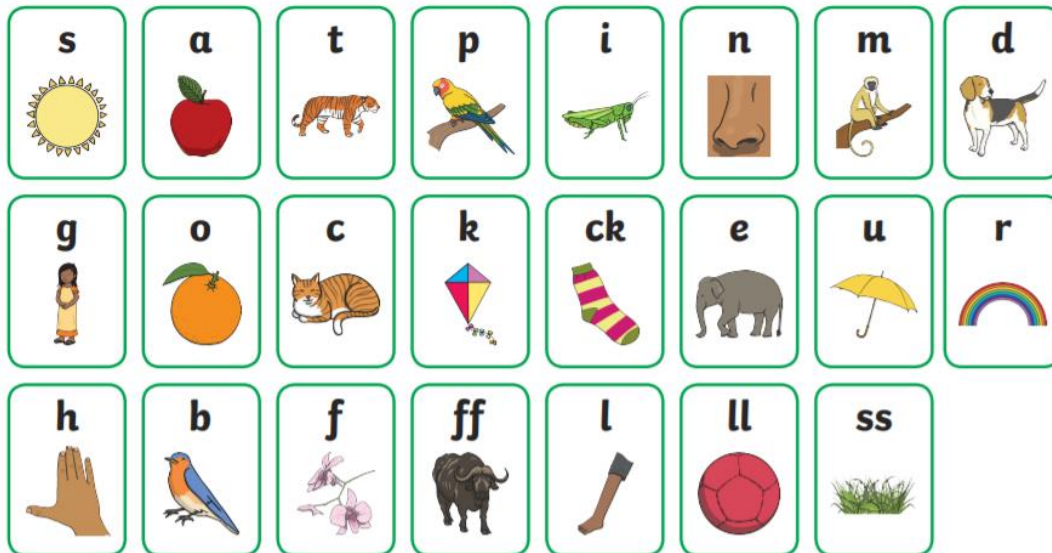


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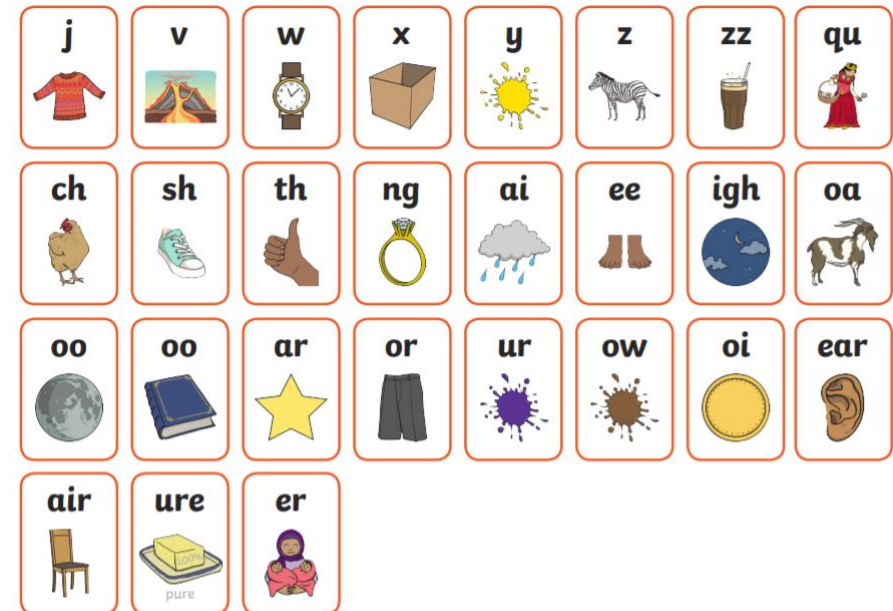
Spelling with Phonics

Phonics: Your child will learn to read and write words with these sounds. Could you practise them at home? You could ask your child to write different words containing these sounds. You could even get creative with paint, chalk, etc.

Phase 2



Phase 3





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Spelling Common Exception Words

Children will learn to spell some words that may not follow the rules. These are sometimes called 'irregular' words, 'tricky words' or 'common exception words', such as:

the, no, to, into, go, I, he, she, we, me, you, are, her, was, all, they, my, said.

You could practise writing these words with your child at home. Perhaps try some of the creative tasks here. →

There are many other creative ways to practise spelling whilst having fun too!



Dip a paintbrush into some water and paint some words on a dry surface outside, such as paving slabs. You could try writing these tricky words; all, said, the, into, was.



Create rainbow words. Ask a grown-up to write a tricky word onto paper using a pencil. Trace over the word several times, each time with a different colour from the rainbow.



With the help of a grown-up, write some tricky words on pieces of paper and lay them on the floor, like a path. Jump along the path, saying each tricky word as you land on it.



Play a lucky dip game. Ask a grown-up to write out some tricky words onto small pieces of paper, fold them up and place them in a container.



Pull out a word and copy it onto paper or a whiteboard. You may like to try the words; he, she, we, me.



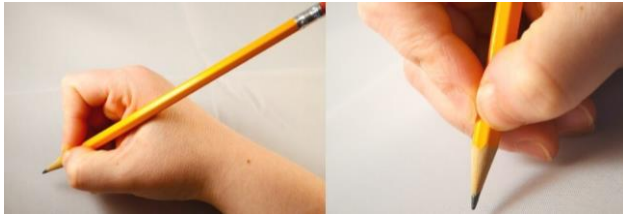
Tip a small amount of flour onto a flat surface and spread it out with your hand. Copy some tricky words into the flour using your finger. You could try writing; I, no, to, go.

Create a treasure hunt. Ask a grown-up to write some tricky words on paper and hide these around the house or garden. Search for the words



and when you find one, write it down on a detective notepad.

Tripod grip:



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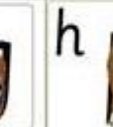






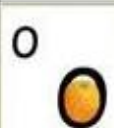




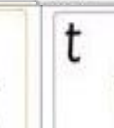
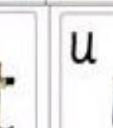





Letter Formation

A wonderful video guide to
letter formation:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=5L3u5

[6-T1Ag](#)

In school, your child will be taught how to form the letters of the alphabet. They will be familiar with the rhymes below to help remember how to form them. You can mirror this language at home when writing.

 a	 b	 c	 d	 e	 f	 g	 h	 i	 j	 k	 l	 m
 n	 o	 p	 qu	 r	 s	 t	 u	 v	 w	 x	 y	 z

You can explore letter formation and develop fine motor skills by using a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes, cutlery, felt tips, pencils, etc. Children should be encouraged to sit in a correct position for writing with the correct posture and pencil grip when writing.

CHECK YOUR CHILD'S HANDWRITING POSITION





Writing in Reception

Mrs Smith's Top Tips for Writing at Home:



Take advantage of different opportunities to write at home:

- A simple shopping list before a trip to the shops.
- A simple sentence about something they did at school.
- A simple postcard when they have had a day out.
 - A note or card to someone else.
- Encourage your child to write their own name, family names, letter sounds and key words.
- Explore writing with paint, twigs, sand, chalk, misty windows etc.
- Watch educational videos together or buy some simple workbooks to help if possible.
- Communicate with your child's class teacher about your child's individual targets.

Have fun with writing!